

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

May 20, 2003

FROM: RUDY LOPEZ, Director
Department of Behavioral Health

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS WITH FRANK A. IBARRA, JODIE POLITO, AND
DIANE TERRONES FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Terminate agreement No. 96-526 with Jodie Ebbinga Polito effective June 30, 2003.
2. Approve employment agreements with the following contractors for mental health services for the period July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004 in the following amounts:

Contract No.	Contractor	Position	Amount
	Frank A. Ibarra	Vocational Education Specialist	\$ 14,824
	Jodie Polito	Forensic Occupational Therapist	\$ 48,166
	Diane Terrones	Parent Support Coordinator	\$ 35,747
		Total	\$98,737

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Approval of this item will allow DBH to continue to offer specialized services to clients of the Central and East Valley regions of San Bernardino County through contract employees.

The three providers listed above currently provide specialized contract services to DBH clients. Current contracts with Mr. Ibarra and Ms. Terrones expire on June 30, 2003; those contracts are recommended for renewal through June 30, 2004. Ms. Polito's current contract (#96-526) was put in place July 1, 1996 with no specific termination date. Staff recommends termination of this existing agreement and approval of a new contract to expire on June 30, 2004. Approval of these recommendations will ensure that all three agreements are subject to a standard annual service review.

DBH has several contractors who perform grant, state, and federally funded activities that provide highly technical services to a culturally diverse mentally ill clientele and family members. Two positions, the Vocational Education Specialist and the Forensic Occupational Therapist, are funded entirely by State and Federal grants. Funding for these positions is dependent upon renewal of these grants. The Parent Support Coordinator is partially funded through the State's Children's System of Care (CSOC) Grant, State Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic Treatment (EPSDT), Federal Medi-Cal, and State realignment funds.

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Following is additional information regarding the three contract positions:

- Frank Ibarra's position is funded by a grant from the Department of Rehabilitation. The current agreement (County #01960) funds vocational rehabilitation for mentally ill consumers and expires June 30, 2004. Mr. Ibarra works two hours a day, five days a week for the Employment Services Section of DBH's Housing Division Program where he assists the homeless in seeking employment. Mr. Ibarra has held this contract position since 1987 and holds a teaching credential. This position requires two years of experience within a program directed toward meeting specialized needs of homeless mentally ill consumers, as well as two years of working with outside agencies.
- Jodie Polito's employment agreement is funded by a grant from the Forensic Conditional Release Program (CONREP). CONREP is responsible for treatment and supervision of persons referred by criminal courts or by the Board of Prison Terms to the State Department of Mental Health Treatment and supervision occurs in community settings. Ms. Polito works up to thirty hours per week. As a Forensic Occupational Therapist with CONREP, she possesses extensive knowledge of CONREP laws and regulations and works with clients to:
 - Assess functional deficits;
 - Improve daily living;
 - Increase vocational and communication skills

As the local mental health agency, DBH performs the mental health functions associated with CONREP under Agreement No. 02-1283 with the State Department of Mental Health. This partnership has been in existence since FY 1985-86 and has been renewed annually.

- Diane Terrones' position is funded through a combination of State CSOC and EPSDT, Federal Medi-Cal, and State realignment funds. Ms. Terrones works eight hours a day, five days a week. Her position provides advocacy services on behalf of seriously and emotionally disturbed (SED) children and adolescents who are separated or at risk of separation from their families. Ms. Terrones' duties include developing parent educational and support groups, promoting collaboration between families and youth services, and acting as liaison between parents, health care providers, and the educational system. Should the State discontinue CSOC grant funding, DBH will use Realignment funds to continue the funding for this position in the future because of its importance as DBH's Coordinator of the Children and Family Advisory Committee. The Parent Support Coordinator participates in reviewing and implementing behavioral health services for children and families in each region by promoting services which are both family-centered and strengths-based.

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REVIEW BY OTHERS: These agreements have been reviewed and approved as to form by Deputy County Counsel, W. Andrew Hartzell on May 7, 2003. This item was also reviewed by Administrative Analyst, Carol Hughes, County Administrative Office on May 12, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Funding for these three positions in the amount of \$98,737 is included in the Department's proposed Budget for FY 2003/04. These positions are funded with a combination of Federal and State grant funds, State EPSDT, Federal Medi-Cal funds, and State realignment funds dedicated to mental health service for the residents of San Bernardino County. There is no additional local cost to the County.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends approval as it will impose no additional cost to the County while providing specialized services to needy individuals in San Bernardino County.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S): All

PRESENTER: Rudy Lopez, Director
(909) 387-7024

cjr: E:\FYz0304\Employees\Contract Employees\Min-MH Contract Employees (Final).DOC